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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION INFORMATION REPORT REPORT NO. 25X1A CD NO. COUNTRY Korea DATE DISTR. 6 June 1952 SUBJECT Social and Economic Conditions, Kosong-gun NO. OF PAGES DATE OF NO. OF ENCLS. INFO. 25X1A (LISTED BELOW) 25X1A PLACE SUPPLEMENT TO **ACQUIRED** 25X1X REPORT NO. OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18. SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE-THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED. SOURCE

Collective Farms

1. In 1952 two collective farms, each 70 chongbol in area, will be organized to sustain farming operations which had suffered because of the fear among farmers of United Nations air attack and guerrilla raids. North Korean authorities plan to establish Farm Number 1 in the Sap'yong-ni (128-19, 38-41) (DT-4181)-Organgang-myon (128-11, 38-42) (DT-2983)-Kosong-gun area and Farm Number 2 in the Naech op-ri (0355/1586/6849)-So-myon (128-15, 38-41) (DT-3581)-Kosong-gun area. They plan to confiscate unconditionally all land in these areas for the two collective farms and to partition the land among groups called "cho" (4809), each of which will have an area of arable land not exceeding 20,000 p'yong.1 Ten families will be included in each cho. The North Korean government will furnish all seed, fertilizer, farming tools, and oxen. Farmers providing any seed or equipment when joining a collective farm will be reimbursed at the time of the harvest according to the prices which the items cost when given to the farm.

2. Persons expected to participate in the collective farm include poor farmers with few dependents, refugee farmers without land, and NKLP members who will participate initially in the program for propaganda and leadership purposes. Each struct, according to the number of days he works, will have to consign 27 percent of his annual gross harvest to the government. Farm authorities will ration food to the farmers during the frowing season. 3. Some farmers were affiliating themselves with the farms to meet immediate needs. So others were hesitant and opposed to the system. Farm authorities plan to arm Changed 1. NR 75-2 ...

the refugee farmers and to organize an armed corps among them. RETURN TO ARCHIVES & RECORDS CENTER

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Taxation Policies

- In February 1952 annual North Korean taxes included a tax-in-kind levied only upon farmers, a local tax, an income tax for laborers and clerical workers, a monthly profit tax for merchants, a vehicle tax, and irrigation dues. The tax-in-kind rate was 27 percent for crops other than rice and 23 percent for the rice crop. The local tax, remitted by the head of each family in quarterly payments and varying according to this person's standard of living, ranged from 90 North Korean won to 300 North Korean won. The income and profit taxes were proportionate to each individual's wages in the case of the laborers and clerical workers and to the profit of each merchant. The vehicle tax varied between 150 won and 300 won for each ox cart and was paid in quarterly installments. Farmers whose land benefitted from irrigation systems paid irrigation dues of 10 kilograms of grain for each bag of grain harvested from the watered land. Each bag of grain weighed approximately 70 kilograms.
- 5. Tax collectors were requisitioning rice in the event persons did not meet tax payments by the close of tax collection days. In February 1952 farmers were complaining that severe crop surveys by North Korean officials resulted in a tax-in-kind rate of between 50 percent and 60 percent. Merchants held that profit taxes almost equalled net profits.
- 6. Members of the North Korean Democratic Youth Alliance, the Democratic Women's Alliance, the Farmers' Alliance, and the Workers' Union with monthly incomes of less than 1,000 North Korean won paid membership fees of 1 percent of the monthly income. Members of these organizations with incomes of more than 1,000 won paid monthly membership fees of 2 percent of the monthly income. Farmers were required to pay 5 won monthly to the Democratic Youth Alliance and the Democratic Women's Alliance and 200 won annually to the Farmers' Union. Imborers, clerical workers, and administrative and organization employees paid the Workers' Union fee. The head of each family, independent of vocation or income, paid 10 won monthly to the Korean-Soviet Cultural Association, the Fatherland Defense Supporting Association, the Patriots' Support Association, and the Red Cross.

Commodity Prices

7. Commodity prices in North Korean won on 5 March 1952 in the Kosong, Tronschion (127-54, 38-54) (DU-0506), and Wonsan areas were as follows:

	Kosong	T'ongeh'ön	Wonsan
Rice2	7,000	8,000	9,000
Millet	6,000	6,400	7,000
Potato	1,000	1,000	1,800
Barley	5,000	5,000	6,000
Soy bean	4,000	4,000	5,000
Red bean	7,000	8,000	9,000
Suit	15,000	15,000	12,000
Overcoat	10,000	9,000	12,000
Socks, one pair	700	600	500
Shoes, one pair	4,500	4,000	3,000
Rubber shoes, one pair	2,500	2,200	22,000
Toilet or washingsoap, one cake	250	200	150
Towel, one	900	800	700
Tooth brush, one	450	400	300
Sake, one dael	300	350	400
Meat, one kun ¹	ž00	250	300
Hotel room, with two meals	1,350	1,400	1,500
Pencil, one	100	80	60
Correct one hundle	7,500	7,500	8,000
Seaweed, one bundle Salt, one-half dae	1,500	1,500	1,000
Myongtae, tenty	500	400	400

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Medical Facilities and Conditions

- 8. In March 1952 the public health section of the county people's committee in Kosong-gun controlled the county people's hospital, the district dispensaries, and the village medical survey teams. The village survey teams, composed of three persons, sought to isolate residents in the early stages of an epidemic disease, supervised sanitation within the village, and inoculated village residents. The head of each team was required to have some knowledge of medicine.
- 9. The district dispensaries, consisting of two doctors and three nurses, provided minor medical treatment, sold general medicines, supervised the village survey teams, and enforced adherence to the village inoculation programs. The county hospitals, consisting of three doctors and five nurses, treated serious cases of illness, issued medical examination certificates, hospitalized serious patients, and supervised the district dispensaries and the distribution of medicine. The county public health sections, in addition to their function of overall supervision, organized epidemic prevention teams and distributed medicine.
- 10. In March these organizations in the Komong-gun area were developing the spring epidemic prevention program which involved enforcement of inoculation regulations and the fumigation of clothing to eliminate lice. Propaganda used to make persons aware of the problem included statements that the number of deaths from illness was far greater than the number of battle casualties.
- 11. In March 1952 typhus and dengue fever were spreading in the Kosong-gun area. Prices in North Korean won of medicine were as follows:

Salvarsan, one injection 1,500 won to 2,000 won Penicillin, one injection 5,000 won to 6,000 won Heart stimulants, one injection 400 won to 500 won Sulfadiazine, one tablet 200 won to 250 won

Although the above medicines were readily available in quantity, most of the residents were unable to procure the remedies at the proper time because of the financial difficulties of daily living.

Communications

12. In March 1952 North Korean officials were maintaining mail, telephone, and telegraph communication as far south as Kosong-gum. Mail was being delivered on foot. Registered mail was processed once every 2 weeks. Each district had a post office, employing seven or eight persons. Postage for letters cost 100 North Korean won; telegram fees were charged at the rate of 3 won for each letter used. Women operated the switchboards which were in air raid shelters. Five persons at the Kosong post office were responsible for keeping the telephone and telegraph lines and the mail system operating. Communication was frequent between North Korean soldiers and their relatives.

Security Measures

13. In February 1952 curfew in the Kosong-T'ongeh'on area was between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. North Korean soldiers were permitted to walk on any road day or night. Civilians were restricted to the main road between Kosong and T'ongeh'on. Non-government employees were required to carry road passes, approved by the village committee and district police stations, and a citizenship card. Government employees were required to carry only the identification card issued by the parent organization or travel orders.

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Military Conscription

14. In February 1952 North Korean army male recruitment policies in Kosong-gun involved neither specific conscription days nor uniform procedures. Women were not being conscripted but some were volunteering. North Korean soldiers over 33 years of age were being rotated to the rear areas to meet the manpower shortage there. Since November 1951 sergeants older than 37 years of age who were not serving on the front line had been receiving discharges.

United Nations Air Attack

- 15. In the mid-November 1951 raid, United Nations aircraft scored a direct hit on the air raid shelter of the Kosong-gun North Korean Labor Party office and killed approximately eighty persons, including NKLP staff members. The North Koreans, suspecting that a clandestine radio transmitter identified the target, undertook severe measures of surveillance and investigation.
- 16. Early one morning in late February 1952 four United Nations aircraft dropped about twenty bombs on Onjong-ni (128-11, 38-41) (DT-2982) slightly damaging some large buildings. Since mid-February 1952 United Nations bombing in the Kosong and Trongchion areas has increased.
- 17. In March 1952 there were no bombing targets of value in the Kosong and T'ongch'on areas except for a small number of army trucks which moved at night in the area.
- 25X1A 1. Comment. Korean units of measure used in this report with their equivalents include the following:

Chongbo, one Dae, one : approximately 2 1/2 acres.

: 3.18 pints. : 1.32 pounds.

Kun, one P'yong

: 4 square yards.

25X1A 2. Comment. The unit of measure for all grain products here listed is one large mal, the equivalent of one-half bushel or about 30 pounds of grain.

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